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SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG
A NEW BEGINNING
Y2K OK
GUARANTEED TO KEEP YOU ENTERTAINED THROUGHOUT THE MILLENNIUM

*After ten long years, the iron-fisted rule of DOCTOR ROBOTNIK over planet MOBIUS was believed to have finally ended! With the technological tyrant vanquished and his smelly factories shut down, order and beauty were restored to the city of MOBOTROPOLIS. Now the villain has returned to wreak havoc once more, but there are many who are willing to stand against him in the fight for freedom. The bravest among them is a brash, blue streak who just happens to be the fastest thing alive!* ARCHIE COMICS AND SEGA PRESENT... SONIC THE HEDGEHOG!

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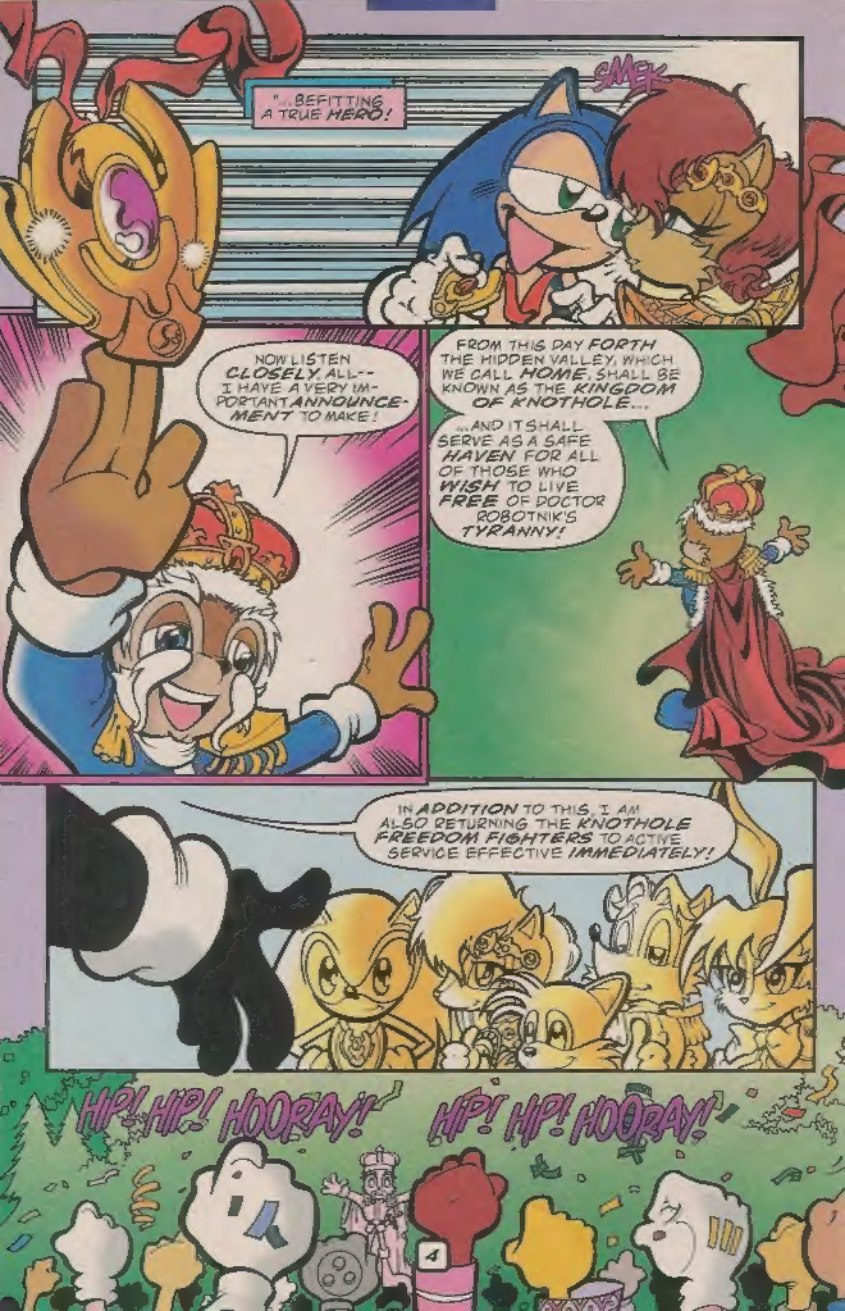
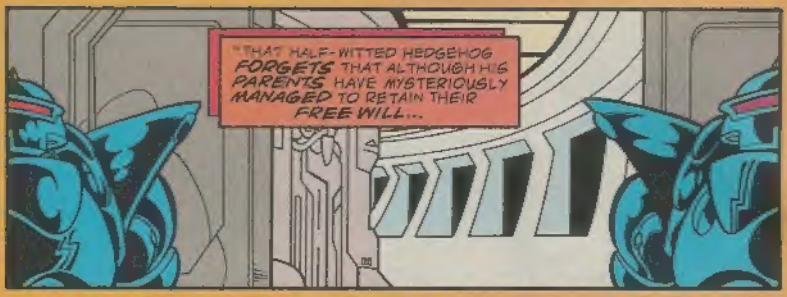
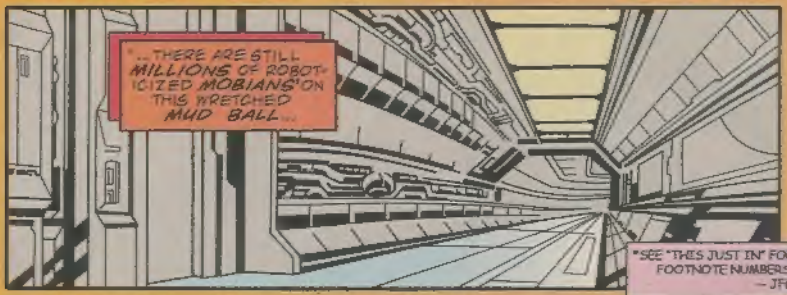
Sir
SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG
CHANGES
CHAPTER I
2

KARL BOLLERS WRITER
FRY PENCILER
ANDREW PEPOY INKER
JEFF POWELL LETTERER
FRANK GAGLIARDO COLORIST
T.F. GABRIE EDITOR/ART DIRECTOR
VICTOR GORELICK MANAGING EDITOR
RICHARD GOLDWATER EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
AHEM... PRINCE ELIAS... PRINCESS SALLY... THE ROYAL COFFER, PLEASE...
I HAVE IT, FATHER.
AND INSIDE...
...IS A METAL OF HONOR...
3

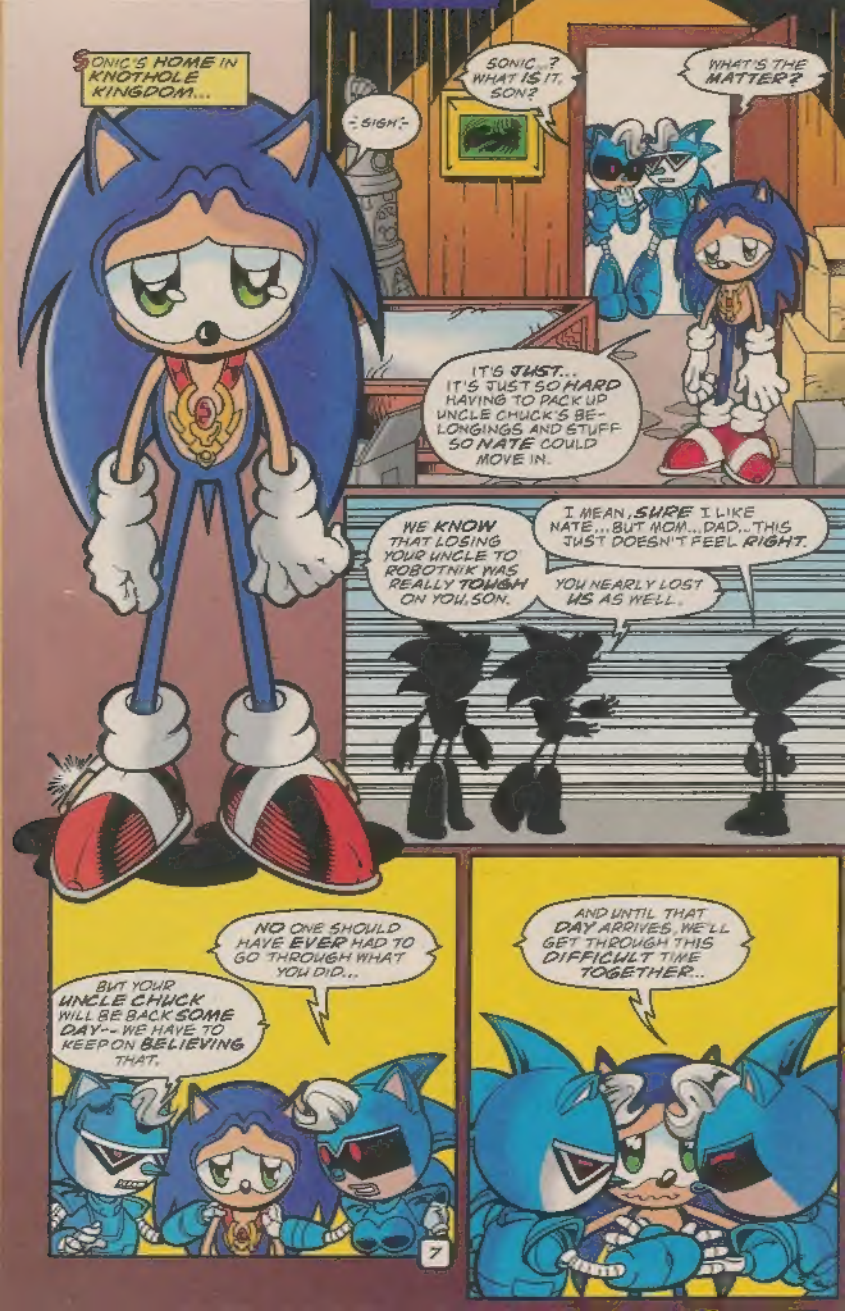

"...BEFITTING A TRUE HERO!
SMEK
NOW LISTEN CLOSELY, ALL-- I HAVE A VERY IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT TO MAKE!
FROM THIS DAY FORTH THE HIDDEN VALLEY, WHICH WE CALL HOME, SHALL BE KNOWN AS THE KINGDOM OF KNOTHOLE...
...AND IT SHALL SERVE AS A SAFE HAVEN FOR ALL OF THOSE WHO WISH TO LIVE FREE OF DOCTOR ROBOTNIK'S TYRANNY!
IN ADDITION TO THIS, I AM ALSO RETURNING THE KNOTHOLE FREEDOM FIGHTERS TO ACTIVE SERVICE EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY!
HIP! HIP! HOORAY!
HIP! HIP! HOORAY!

DOCTOR ROBOTNIK'S HEADQUARTERS IN ROBOTROPOLIS...
Ahh...
I'VE FINALLY RECOVERED FROM THAT AWFUL VIRUS THAT HAD INFECTED MY SYSTEMS...
...BUT I HAD TO DUMP ALL OF MY OLD CORRUPTED FILES AND START FROM SCRATCH :POOH:-!
I LACK SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE, BUT STRONGLY SUSPECT THAT SONIC HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE SABOTAGE!
AND FOR THAT...
...HE SHALL PAY MOST DEARLY!
WHUMP

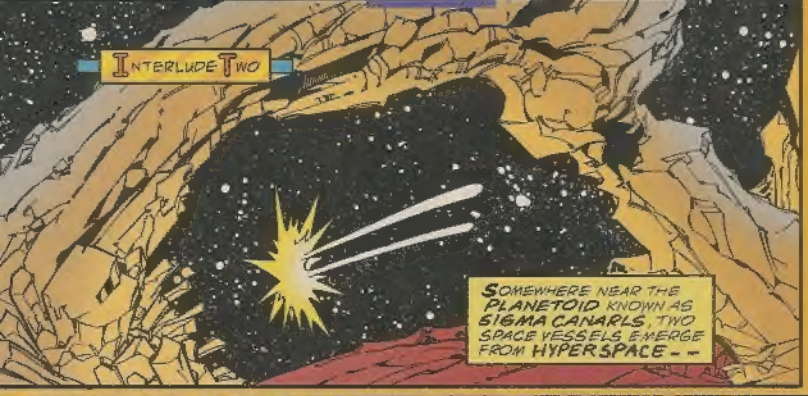


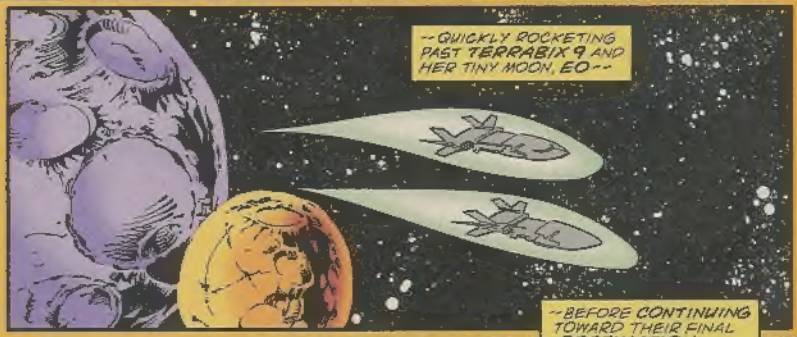



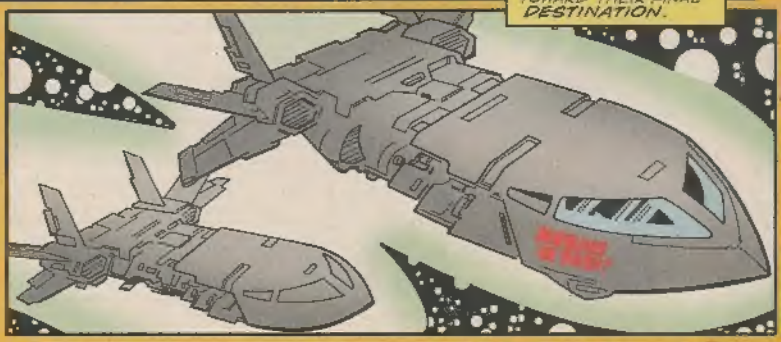

*SEE "THIS JUST IN" FOR FOOTNOTE NUMBERS. — JFG

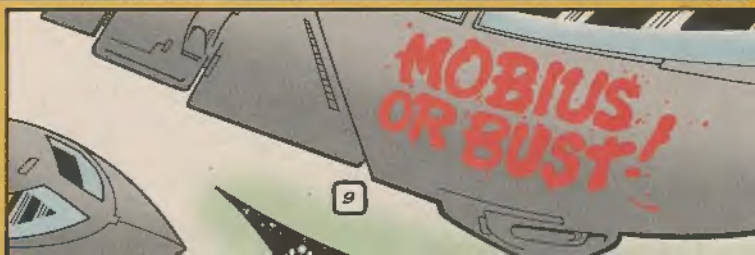

SONIC'S HOME IN KNOTHOLE KINGDOM...
-SIGH-
SONIC...? WHAT IS IT, SON?
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
IT'S JUST... IT'S JUST SO HARD HAVING TO PACK UP UNCLE CHUCK'S BELONGINGS AND STUFF SO NATE COULD MOVE IN.
WE KNOW THAT LOSING YOUR UNCLE TO ROBOTNIK WAS REALLY TOUGH ON YOU, SON.
I MEAN, SURE I LIKE NATE... BUT MOM... DAD... THIS JUST DOESN'T FEEL RIGHT.
YOU NEARLY LOST US AS WELL.
NO ONE SHOULD HAVE EVER HAD TO GO THROUGH WHAT YOU DID...
BUT YOUR UNCLE CHUCK WILL BE BACK SOME DAY-- WE HAVE TO KEEP ON BELIEVING THAT.
AND UNTIL THAT DAY ARRIVES, WE'LL GET THROUGH THIS DIFFICULT TIME TOGETHER..

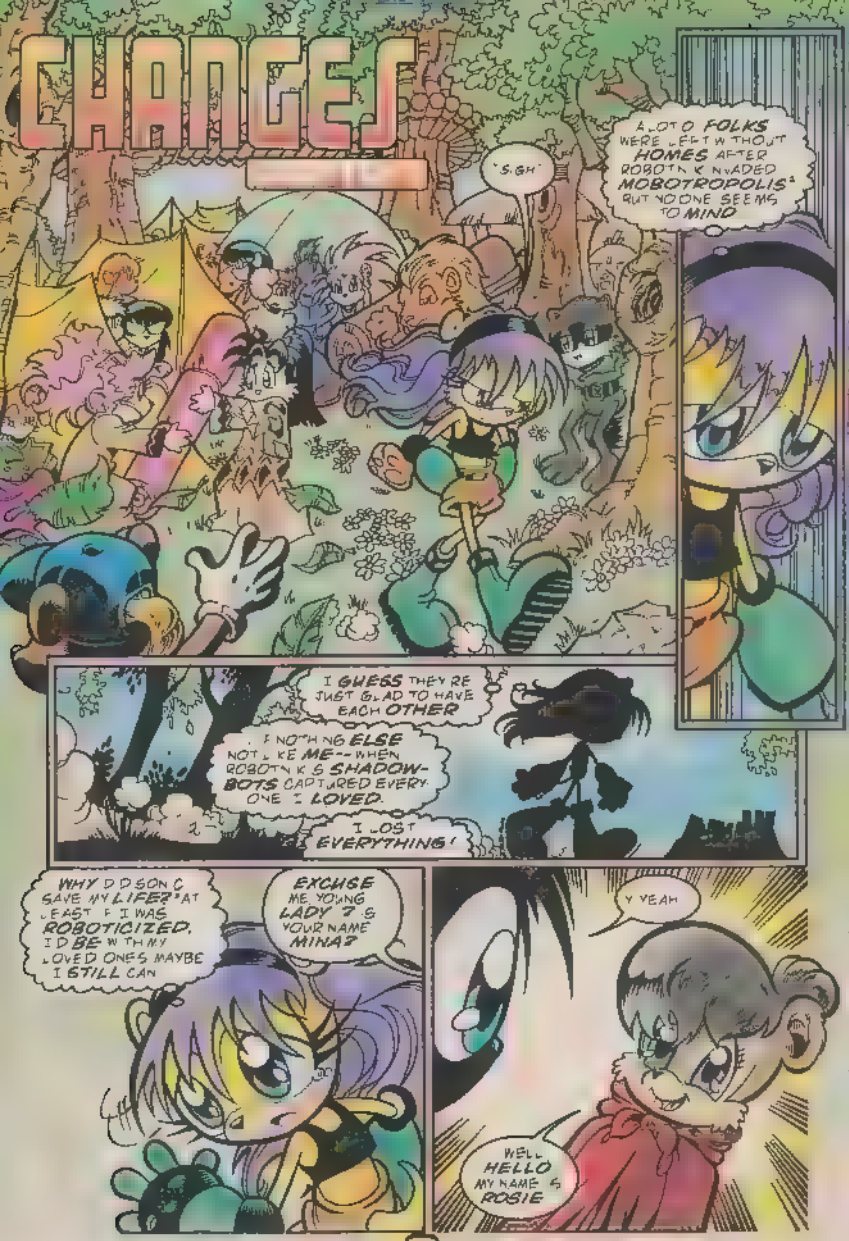
"...AS A FAMILY!"
FATHER, HAS DOCTOR QUACK LEARNED THE REASON WHY MOTHER HAS LONG-SINCE RECOVERED FROM HER INJURIES...
...YET STILL REMAINS ASLEEP WITHIN THIS CRYOGENICS TUBE?
HE'S BEEN TRYING TO SOLVE THAT RIDDLE FOR MONTHS, ELIAS...BUT HASN'T YET FOUND AN ANSWER.
WE SHOULD JUST BE HAPPY THAT QUEEN ALICIA IS ALIVE...
...ALTHOUGH SHE MAY NEVER OPEN HER EYES AGAIN.
DON'T SAY THAT, DAD--WE HAVE TO BE STRONG AND KEEP HOPING SHE'LL GET BETTER!
SALLY'S RIGHT!
HI, NATE!
WHY DON'T WE TELL YOU ON THE WAY TO SONIC'S?
RIGHT ABOUT WHAT?
WELL, FIRST I HAVE TO DROP OFF WHAT'S LEFT OF THE SUPER EMERALD AND THEN...
WERE THE ROYAL FAMILY TO REMAIN INSTEAD OF LEAVING THE MED-LAB WITH THE AGED, OVERLANDER INVENTOR...
...THEY WOULD NOTICE A SLIGHT MOTION THAT WOULD CAUSE THEIR HEARTS TO BEAT EVEN LOUDER UPON THE DRUM THAT IS HOPE.
THEY DO NOT...BUT STILL, THE BEAT CONTINUES.


INTERLUDE TWO
SOMEWHERE NEAR THE PLANETOID KNOWN AS SIGMA CANARIS, TWO SPACE VESSELS EMERGE FROM HYPERSPACE--


--QUICKLY ROCKETING PAST TERRABIX 9 AND HER TINY MOON, EO--
--BEFORE CONTINUING TOWARD THEIR FINAL DESTINATION.

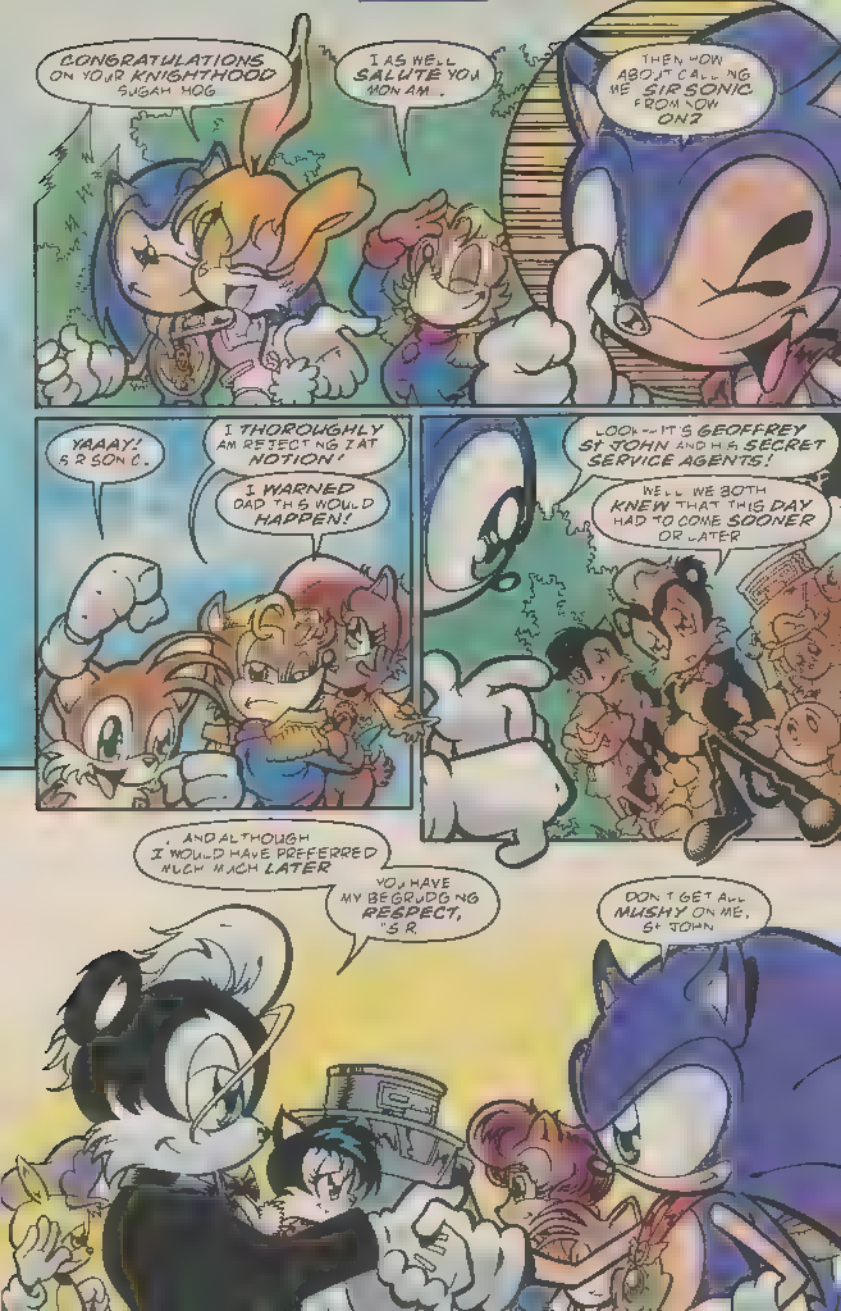


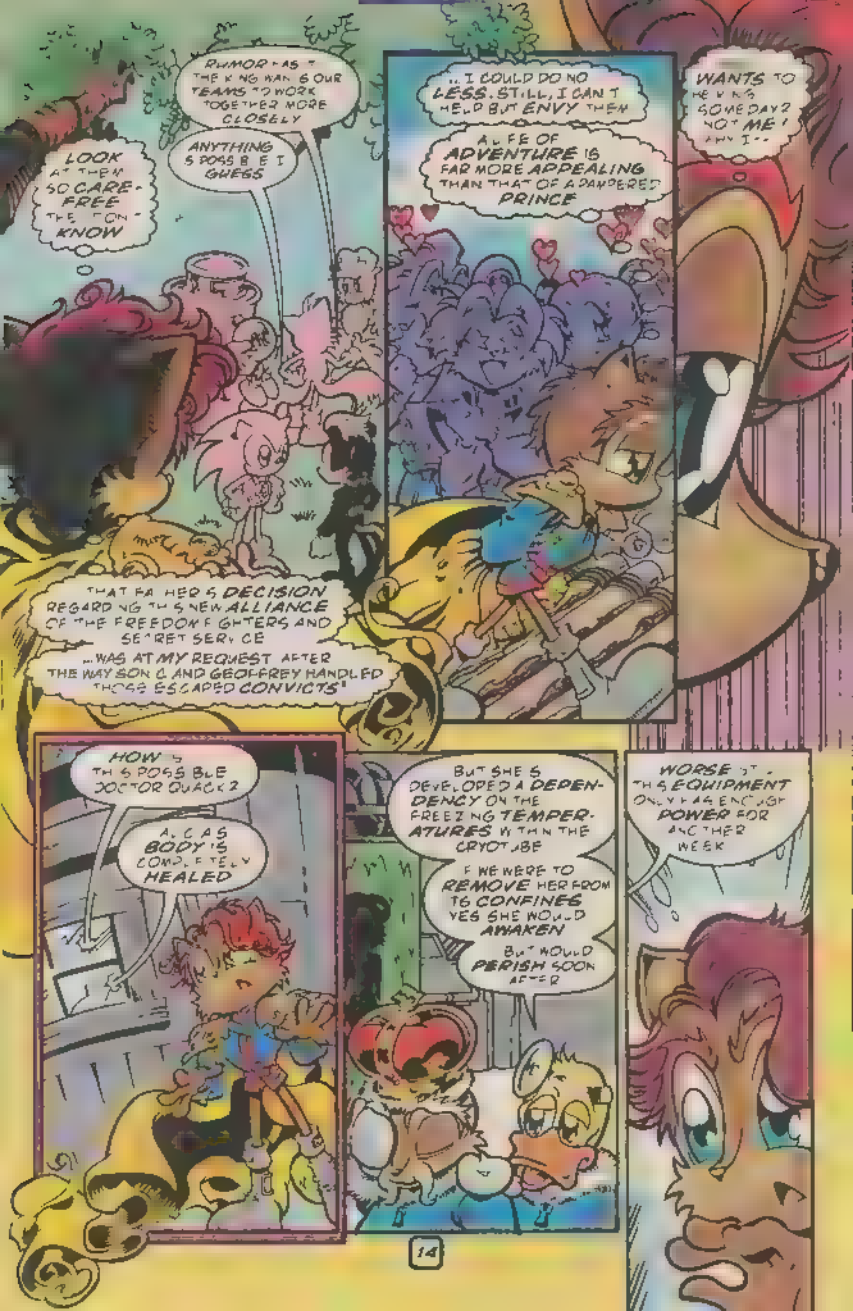

MOBIUS OR BUST!

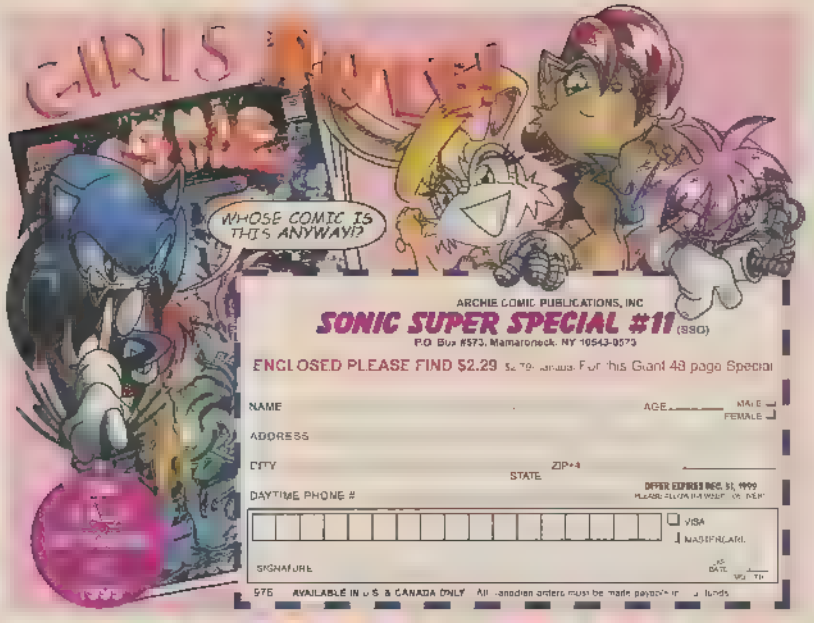

CHANGES
A LOT O FOLKS WERE LEFT W THOUT HOMES AFTER ROBOTN K NVADED MOBOTROPOLIS! BUT NO ONE SEEMS TO MIND
SIGH
I GUESS THEY RE JUST GLAD TO HAVE EACH OTHER
NOTHING ELSE NOT LIKE ME-- WHEN ROBOTN K S SHADOW-BOTS CAPTURED EVERY ONE I LOVED.
I LOST EVERYTHING!
WHY D D SON C SAVE MY LIFE? AT LEAST F I WAS ROBOTICIZED, I D BE W TH MY LOVED ONES MAYBE I STILL CAN
EXCUSE ME YOUNG LADY ? S YOUR NAME MINA?
Y YEAH
WELL HELLO MY NAME S ROSIE

THIS IS RORY SNAGGLE AND SASHA.
THEIR PARENTS WERE TAKEN BY ROBOTNIK'S HORDES AND I WAS HOPING YOU COULD WATCH OVER THEM
WHILE I RUN SOME ERRANDS
MEZI
OF COURSE! THEY'RE IN DESPERATE NEED OF SOMEONE WITH WHOM THEY CAN RELATE, YOUNG ONE
I'LL RETURN SHORTLY
UHH OKAY
HIYA SMALL FRIES-- I'M MINA
WANNA HEAR A REALLY COOL STORY?

IT WAS A BRIGHT AND SUNNY DAY
ANTOINE, NOBODY'S THRILLED TO HAVE DOCTUH ROBOTNIK BACK
...BUT SUMTHIN'S BEEN BOTHERIN YOU RECENTLY BESIDES THAT LEVEL W TH ME SUGAH - WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?
AH MY BEAUTIFUL BUNNIE WHERE SHOULD I BEGIN?
I SUPPOSE MY PROBLEM BEGAN WHEN SONIC INFORMED ME ZAT MON PERE - MY FATHER - EEZ STILL ALIVE
BUT HE EEZ NOW ONE OF ROBOTNIK'S CRUEL SUB-BOSSES WHO RULES ZEE KINGDOM OF MERCIA W TH AN IRON GLOVE!
YOUR DADDY'S NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR H S OWN ACTIONS THOUGH
OF ZAT FACT I AM WELL AWARE FOR ALTHOUGH MY FATHER WAS A HIGH-RANKING GENERAL N ZEE ROYAL GUARD
I REMEMBER HIM AS ZEE KINDEST SOUL WHO EVER LIVED.
I WILL NOT REST UNTIL I HAVE RESTORED HIM TO -
HEY THERE DUDE AND DUDETTE -- WHAT'S SHAKIN' AND BAKIN'?


CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR KNIGHTHOOD SUGAR HOG
I AS WELL SALUTE YOU MON AM.
THEN HOW ABOUT CALLING ME SIR SONIC FROM NOW ON?
YAAAY! SIR SONIC.
I THOROUGHLY AM REJECTING ZAT NOTION!
I WARNED DAD THIS WOULD HAPPEN!
LOOK-- IT'S GEOFFREY ST JOHN AND HIS SECRET SERVICE AGENTS!
WELL WE BOTH KNEW THAT THIS DAY HAD TO COME SOONER OR LATER
AND ALTHOUGH I WOULD HAVE PREFERRED MUCH MUCH LATER
YOU HAVE MY BEGRUDGING RESPECT, "SIR
DON'T GET ALL MUSHY ON ME, ST JOHN


LOOK AT THEM SO CARE-FREE THE FOOLS KNOW
RUMOR HAS IT THE KING HAS GIVEN OUR TEAMS TO WORK TOGETHER MORE CLOSELY
ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE I GUESS
... I COULD DO NO LESS. STILL, I CAN'T HELP BUT ENVY THEM
A LIFE OF ADVENTURE IS FAR MORE APPEALING THAN THAT OF A PAMPERED PRINCE
WANTS TO BE KING SOMEDAY? NOT ME! ANYTHING...
THAT FATHER'S DECISION REGARDING THIS NEW ALLIANCE OF THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS AND SECRET SERVICE
...WAS AT MY REQUEST AFTER THE WAY SONIC AND GEOFFREY HANDLED THOSE ESCAPED CONVICTS!
HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE DOCTOR QUACK?
ALICIA'S BODY IS COMPLETELY HEALED
BUT SHE'S DEVELOPED A DEPENDENCY ON THE FREEZING TEMPERATURES WITHIN THE CRYOTUBE
IF WE WERE TO REMOVE HER FROM ITS CONFINES YES SHE WOULD AWAKEN
BUT WOULD PERISH SOON AFTER
WORSE YET, THIS EQUIPMENT ONLY HAS ENOUGH POWER FOR ANOTHER WEEK

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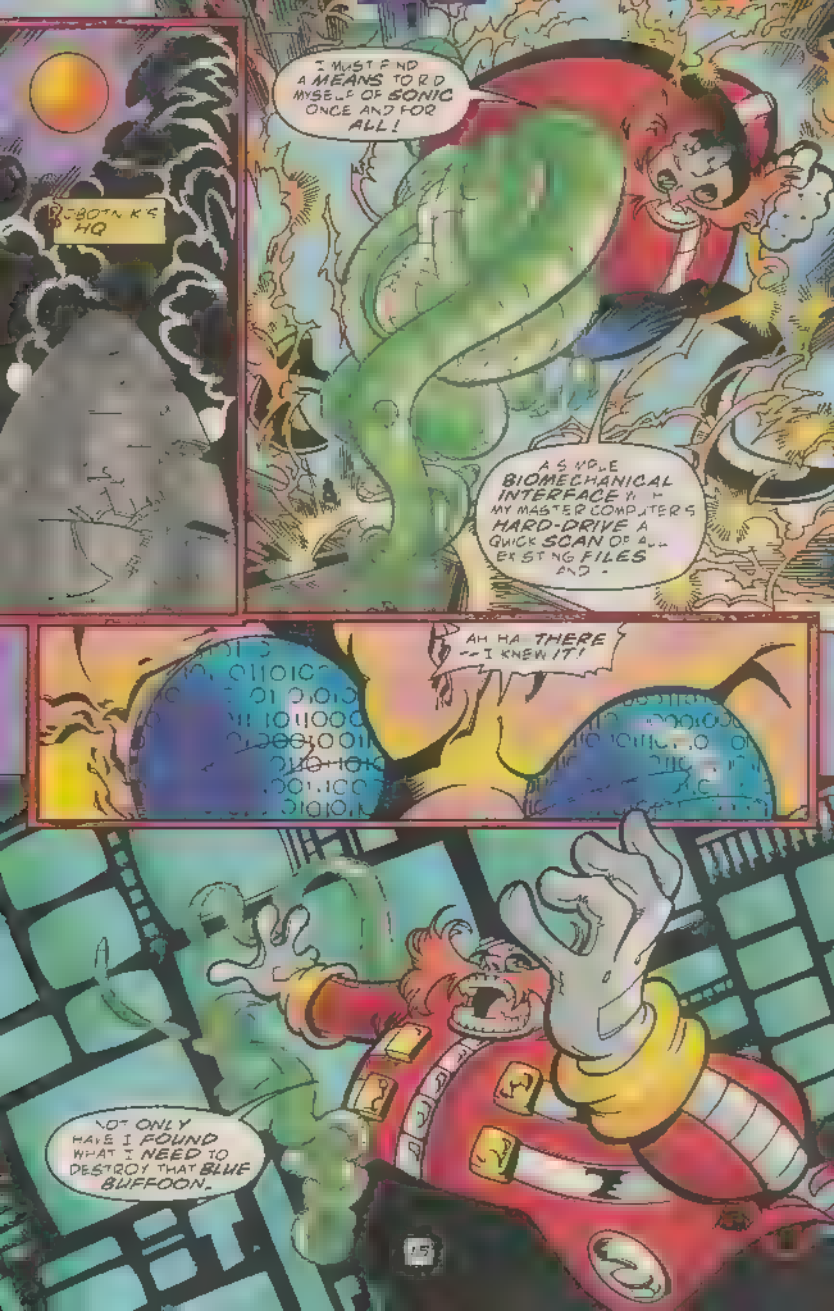
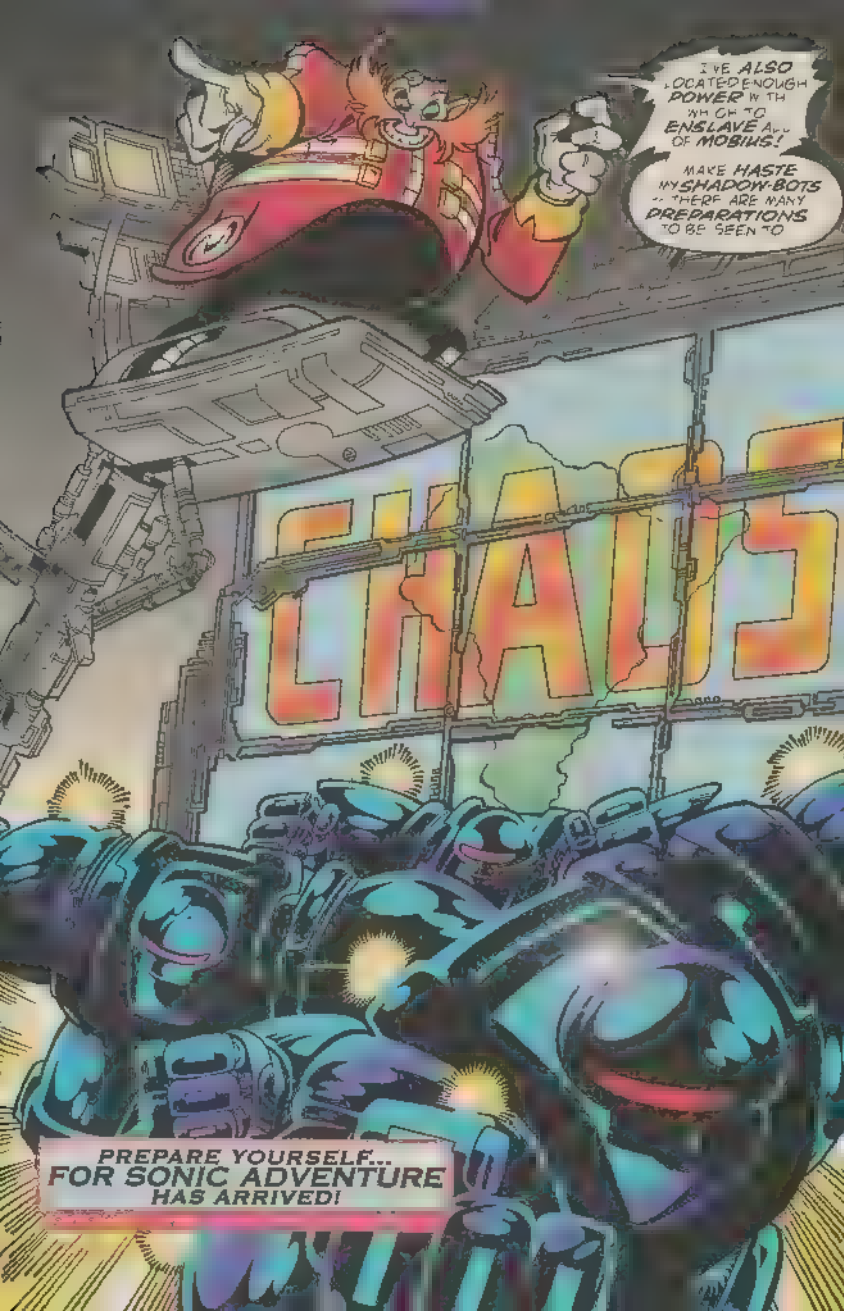
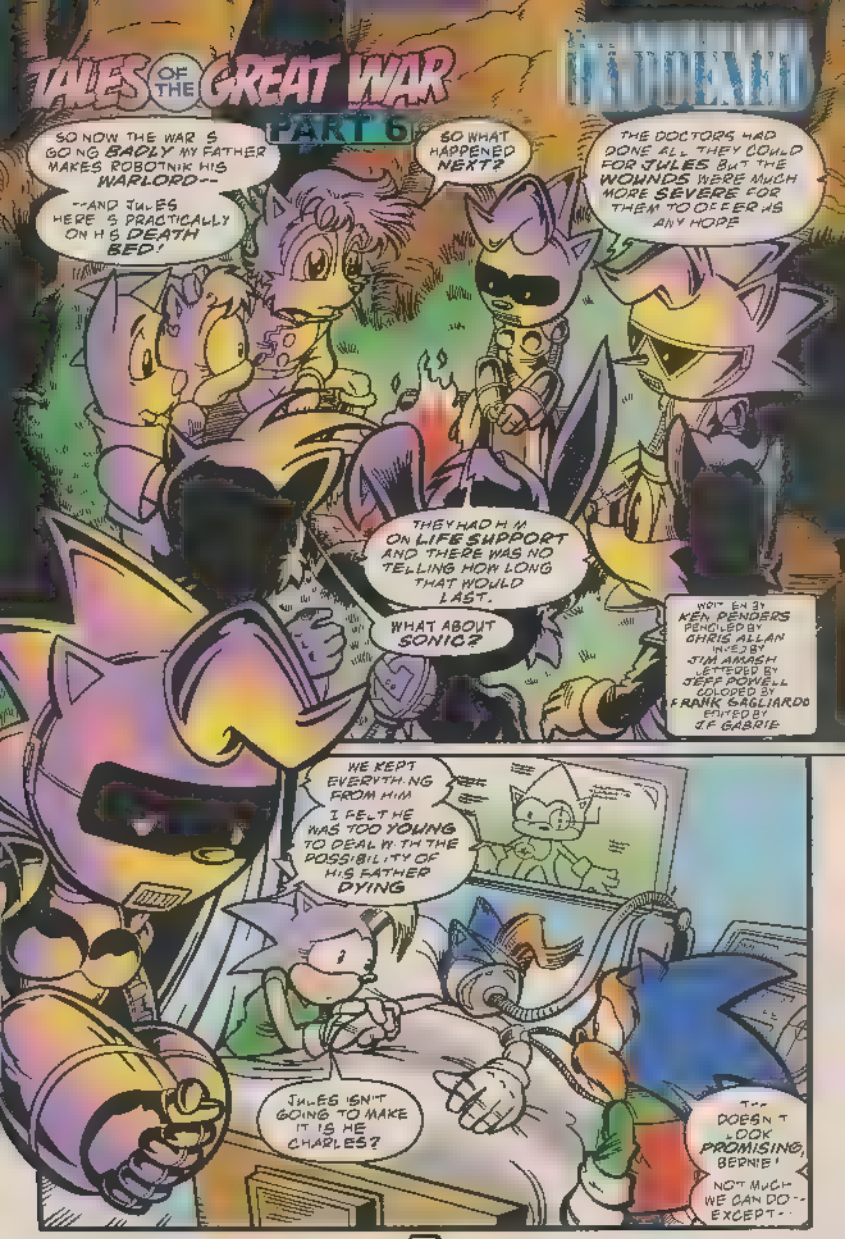

ROBOTNIK'S HQ
I MUST FIND A MEANS TO RID MYSELF OF SONIC ONCE AND FOR ALL!
A SIMPLE BIOMECHANICAL INTERFACE WITH MY MASTER COMPUTER'S HARD-DRIVE A QUICK SCAN OF ALL EXISTING FILES AND -
AH HA! THERE -- I KNEW IT!
NOT ONLY HAVE I FOUND WHAT I NEED TO DESTROY THAT BLUE BUFFOON.
15


I'VE ALSO LOCATED ENOUGH POWER IN THE ORB TO ENSLAVE ALL OF MOBIUS!
MAKE HASTE WITH MY SHADOW-BOTS -- THERE ARE MANY PREPARATIONS TO BE SEEN TO
CHAOS
PREPARE YOURSELF... FOR SONIC ADVENTURE HAS ARRIVED!


TALES OF THE GREAT WAR
PART 6
SO NOW THE WAR S GO NG BADLY MY FATHER MAKES ROBOTNIK HIS WARLORD--
--AND JULES HERE S PRACTICALLY ON H S DEATH BED!
SO WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?
THE DOCTORS HAD DONE ALL THEY COULD FOR JULES BUT THE WOUNDS WERE MUCH MORE SEVERE FOR THEM TO OFFER US ANY HOPE
THEY HAD H M ON LIFE SUPPORT AND THERE WAS NO TELLING HOW LONG THAT WOULD LAST.
WHAT ABOUT SONIC?
WRITTEN BY KEN PENDERS
PENCILED BY CHRIS ALLAN
INKED BY JIM AMASH
LETTERED BY JEFF POWELL
COLORED BY FRANK GAGLIARDO
EDITED BY J.F. GABRIE
WE KEPT EVERYTH NG FROM HIM
I FELT HE WAS TOO YOUNG TO DEAL W TH THE POSSIBILITY OF HIS FATHER DYING
JULES ISN'T GOING TO MAKE IT IS HE CHARLES?
T-- DOESN T LOOK PROMISING, BERNIE!
NOT MUCH WE CAN DO-- EXCEPT--

YES CHARLES?

I MAY HAVE AN OPTION-- BUT IT'S A HUGE RISK!

WHAT OTHER CHOICE DID I HAVE?

MAYBE WE WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER OFF IF YOU HADN'T TRIED TO SAVE ME

SURE CHUCK'S DEVICE WAS SOUND IN THEORY--

--BUT IT HADN'T EVEN BEEN TESTED YET--

--AND HE SURE DIDN'T COUNT ON ROBOTNIK SABOTAGING HIS WORK

SIR CHARLES COULD LAY WASTE TO ALL MY PLANS IF THIS CONTRAPTION WERE TO WORK!

SINCE THAT'S NOT AN OPTION LET'S SEE IF MY THEORY WILL HOLD WATER IF I CROSS THESE CIRCUITS LIKE SO

THERE SHOULDN'T BE LONG BEFORE WE SEE THE RESULTS OF OUR GREAT EXPERIMENT!

UNDER NORMAL CIRCUMSTANCES HIS PLAN MIGHT HAVE BEEN DISCOVERED.

-BUT HE WAS COUNTING ON DESPERATE PEOPLE RESORTING TO DESPERATE MEASURES!

HOW WOULD YOU KNOW WHAT TOOK PLACE?

I BARELY GAVE CHARLES MY APPROVAL WHEN HE STARTED WHEELING YOU OUT OF THE ROOM

AND INTO HIS LAB

HANG IN THERE JULES

YOUR WIFE AND SON NEED YOU--

--AS DO I

YOU GUYS ARE ALL THE FAMILY I HAVE LEFT

EASY THERE

IF ONLY I HAD TIME FOR TESTS BUT IT'S TOO LATE FOR WOULDAS, COULDAS, SHOULDAS NOW!

ONCE I PUSH THIS BUTTON THERE'S NO TURNING BACK

IF THIS DOESN'T WORK MY BROTHER--

KINDA-ARRR

--PLEASE FORGIVE ME

WHEN THE PROCESS WAS COMPLETE--

CHARLES DON'T KNOW WHETHER TO BE RELIEVED OR HORRIFIED!

WITHOUT A DOUBT--

--I CAN SAY CHARLES WAS A BROKEN MAN AFTER THAT!
HE KNEW IMMEDIATELY SOMETHING HAD GONE HORRIBLY WRONG--
--AND PLACED THE BLAME SQUARELY ON HIS OWN SHOULDERS INSTEAD OF WHERE IT REALLY BELONGED
SIR CHARLES DEVICE PERFORMED BETTER THAN EXPECTED!
AND NOW TO TUNE KNOCKING ACORN AND SEE IF ALL GOES ACCORDING TO PLAN!
SO FAR SO GOOD!
KING ACORN IS NOW READY TO ENGAGE IN MORTAL COMBAT WITH MY FORMER OVERLORD!
AT STAKE IS NOTHING LESS THAN WINNER-TAKE ALL!
YOU HAVE TO HAND IT TO ROBOTNIK! HE HAD ALL THE BASES COVERED!
IT WAS HIS SUGGESTION THAT KING ACORN FIGHT A DUEL WITH THE OVERLANDER OVERLORD!
IF KING ACORN WON JULIAN'S WORST ENEMY WOULD HAVE BEEN CONQUERED AND THE KINGDOM WOULD HAVE BEEN RIPE FOR THE TAKING!
IF THE KING LOST HOWEVER--

"JULIAN WAS PREPARED TO SEIZE THE THRONE AND LEAD THE KINGDOM INTO NEVERENDING WAR
"THE FIRST SCENARIO SEEMED LIKELY, ESPECIALLY SINCE HE KNEW HOW TREACHEROUS HIS PEOPLE COULD BE.."
AS FOR THE KING'S SECOND AMADEUS DON'T TRUST OVERLANDERS ANY FARTHER THAN HE COULD THROW THEM
GO AHEAD, PUNK MAKE MY DAY
"IN THE END THE BETTER SWORDSMAN DID PREVAIL--
"-AND TEMPERED HIS JUDGMENT TRUE TO HIS NATURE
NO. I WON'T SLAY YOU AS YOU DESERVE--
-BUT I DO EXPECT YOU TO HONOR YOUR WORD!
"FOR JULIAN THE OUTCOME WAS A DISASTER"
NEITHER OF MY ENEMIES WAS VANQUISHED!
JUST GOES TO SHOW, IF YOU WANT A JOB DONE RIGHT YOU HAVE TO DO IT YOURSELF!
eh?
5
A MINUTE OF YOUR TIME JULIAN IF I MAY
I KNOW YOU'RE QUITE THE SCIENTIST AND I'M HOPING YOU'LL HAVE BETTER LUCK GETTING THIS TO WORK THAN I DID

NONSENSE, SIR CHARLES. YOU'RE MORE THAN CAPABLE!

NOT ANYMORE. I NEVER WAS CUT OUT FOR THE RESPONSIBILITIES DELEGATED TO ME ANYWAY!

CHUCK WAS MORE DESPONDENT THAN ANYONE REALIZED SO WHEN BERNIE FOUND HIM AT HOME PACKING HIS BELONGINGS

CHARLES! PLEASE! LISTEN TO REASON!

JULES WOULD BE DEAD NOW IF NOT FOR YOUR DEVICE!

AND WHO'S TO SAY HE MIGHT AS WELL BE! LOOK AT HIM

DID YOU EVER THINK HIS CONDITION MAY ONLY BE TEMPORARY UNTIL YOU FIND A SOLUTION?

I'M A FRAUD BERNIE

I MAY BE INTELLIGENT BUT I'M NOT THE GENIUS EVERYONE GIVES ME CREDIT FOR

DON'T GO CHARLES THIS STILL YOUR HOME!

"TOO ASHAMED TO STAY CHARLES WALKED OUT LEAVING MY BELOVED TO PONDER WHAT SHE WOULD DO NOW--

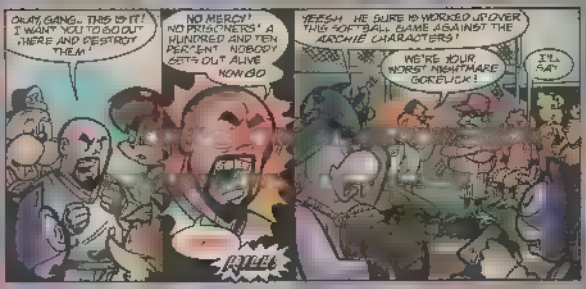
"--AND HOW SHE WOULD EXPLAIN IT ALL TO OUR SON."

NEXT ISSUE

JUST WHEN YOU THINK EVENTS COULD NOT GET ANYMORE ORWELL YOU HAVE YET TO EXPERIENCE

LIFE UNDER-GROUND

# SONIC-GRAMS




**OFF PANEL** **by Gallagher, Manak & Amash**

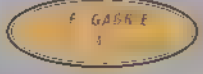
## THIS JUST IN!

*The upcoming "SONIC ADVENTURE" storyline starts next issue! Throughout the course of the story, you will be introduced to many of the elements shown in the game. Such places as The Mystic Ruins and Station Square. You will also be introduced to some new characters like Big The Cat and E-102 Gamma. They'll join Sonic, Tails, Knuckles, Amy Rose and the rest of The Freedom Fighters against the evil of Dr. Robotnik. Together, they try to stop him from unleashing the power of Chaos!*

*At press time, SEGA's Dreamcast is selling like hotcakes. In most stores, Sonic Adventure is already sold out. If you can find it, get it because it's so much fun.*

*Back to the comics... first, please note that the e-mail address will now be: soniccolumn@archiecomics.com. Second, as mentioned on page 6 of the first story, the Sonic comics have decided to change the footnote rule for your reading pleasure. Rather than have an asterisk direct you to a footnote reference at the bottom of the panel, footnote numbers will show up. These numbers will correspond to footnote references to be found in the letters page. This will free up the visuals from extra captions. It will also allow the story to flow better since you're not forced to read the footnote at every turn. Instead, you can wait to find out afterwards if you're interested. I'd like to hear your thoughts on how well you like this approach, as well as some other things like the book's new look, etc. That's it for this month, so until then...*

***Catch you on the flip side!***




**Note.** Due to the overwhelming amount of e-mail and snail mail, it is impossible for us to reply personally to each and every message. However, your opinions are important to us and each message will be read. Also, due to space limitations, some correspondence may be edited. Thanks for understanding!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**Footnote References:**

1) Citizens of Mobius.
2) See SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #75.
3) In SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #76.
4) See SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #69, (Page 10, last panel).
5. In SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #70.

**Re: SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #74**

**Your comments on this issue have been fast and furious. Here are some of the things you've been saying:**

Dear Sonic-Grams,

I just read SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #74 and it was fantastique! I wonder who was in that Robotnik costume? I can't wait until I get issue #75! By the way, please say hi to Sally and Elias for me.

Rebecca Amos
Birdton, NB
CANADA

**Consider it done.**

Dear Sonic-Grams,

I love your comics but they're getting a tad short. A few years ago, they seemed so much longer. I also love "Off Panel" and how you guys sneaked in the Dreamcast swirl symbol on the cover of SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #9 (not to mention the system and the controller Rotor was playing with). The Sonic art from the SONIC ADVENTURE game in the Sonic Checklist ad is awesome.

Mark Schmidt
CANADA

**It seems shorter because there are two stories in every issue and all the fan art and letters pages are in the back instead of spread throughout the entire issue.**

Dear Sonic-Grams,

I just got done reading SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #74, and I think one word sums it up: WOW! You guys really know how to keep somebody on the edge of their seat! I think the guy masquerading as Robotnik is his robotic twin Robo-Robotnik. He's the only person I could think of who would be just as evil as -- well... himself! Anyway, I'm looking forward to next month's "75th Issue Extravaganza" to hit the stands! Keep up the good work. Catch you on the flip side!

Brennan Doud
Fort Wayne, IN

**Thanks, Brennan. As you know by now, you were right about the Robo-Robotnik connection. Glad to see you figured it out.**

Hey, Sonic!

I see you're back in business! Good! For a while, I thought perhaps your life was getting boring (like mine)- uhh... then again... By the way, Sally can't marry Antoine! Can't her dad see she likes you, and Antoine likes Bunnie?!? HELLO!!! Am I the only sane person around here?!! (Guess so!) Ahem... excuse me for a moment... kay -- I'm somewhat better now. I have some questions: 1) How old is Elias? 2) Does he have a girlfriend? With the last bunch of issues ending in cliffhangers, are you going to continue to taunt me endlessly!!? The comics seem to take so long to come out sometimes... ahh -- what can't be helped, can't be bought soon enough. Gotta go!

Brandy Xat VanAusdelo (age 16)
Yellville, AR

**As you can see, the King is starting to see Sonic in a whole new light. On to your questions: Elias is two years older than Sally and no, he doesn't have a girlfriend.**

**We appreciate your comments on SONIC #74. See you in thirty as we review SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #75. And remember...**

## *KEEP ON JUICIN'!*

**Cover by Patrick Spaziante and Harvey Mercadoocasio. Colors and separations by Josh D. Ray.**

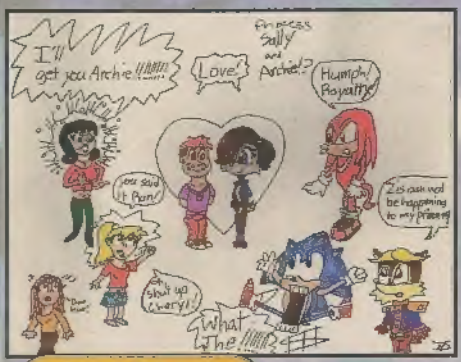
# COMING ATTRACTIONS

***In four weeks: In the conclusion of the three-part story called "King Of The Hill," Knuckles and his childhood bully, Monk, have to work together as they become Hunter's new prey! Be vewy, vewy quiet... he's hunting echidna. Heheheheheheheheheh! This issue is brought to you by Ken Penders and Harvey Mercadoocasio. Also, Part Three of the Espio The Chameleon solo story by Penders with art by Colleen Doran and Andrew Pepoy.***

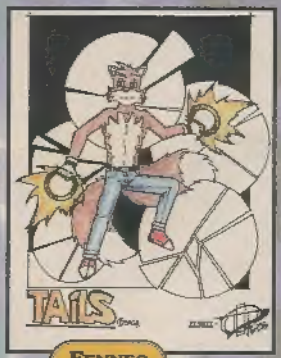
***Next Month: THIS IS WHERE IT ALL BEGINS, THE OFFICIAL GAME ADAPTATION OF THE NEW SEGA DREAMCAST'S "SONIC ADVENTURE!" In the first story, Sonic and the Freedom Fighters are sent to the mysterious Hidden City of The Ancients! Story & Art by Bollers, Fry & Pepoy. The second story stars Knuckles as he confronts an invasion by Dr. Robotnik himself! Story & Art by Penders, Butler and Eklund. Also included, the conclusion to "Tales of the Great War!"***

***KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #32 on sale mid-Nov. 1999!*** ***SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #79 on sale late Nov. 1999!***

# SONIC FAN ART




**Jamie Dowdle**
**Russellville, KY**




**Fennec**

**Amber Rallins**
**Chicago, IL**

**Amy Tillinghast**
**San Diego, CA**

If you'd like your drawing printed, please send to:
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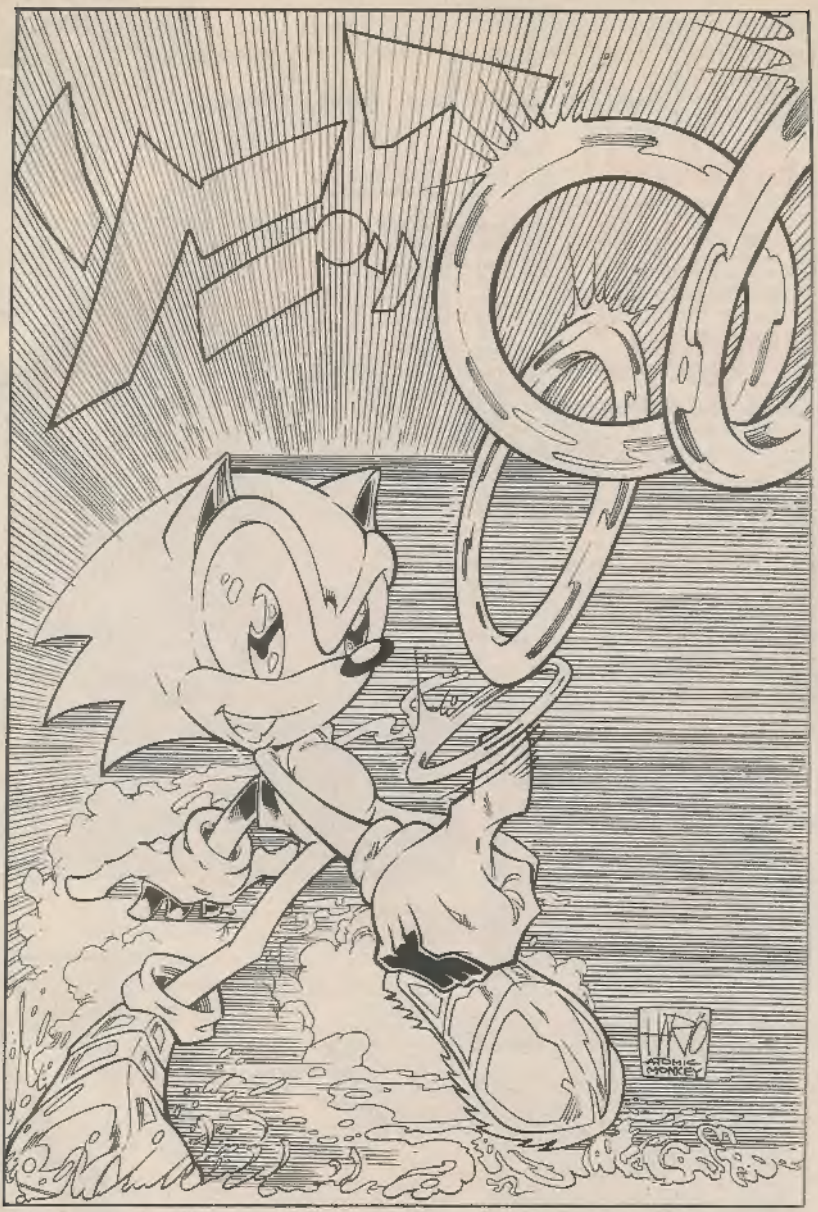


**Pro Art by Harvey Mercadoocasio. Color In & Pin-Up!**

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